are all the events on which man's bodily and external welfare depends! He is dependent on the weather, and it is so variable that its changes cannot be anticipated. And yet it is scarcely more capricious than the whole course of events, prosperous or adverse, arising from his fellow-men, or from nature,, on which his whole earthly destiny depends. But nowhere Is this complication, with its consequent uncertainty, so strikingly displayed as in the constitution of his bodily frame. The most wonderful and ingenious of the physical works of God on the earth, it is also the most complex. Every one part is so dependent on every other, that the least derangement (and they are all liable to derangement) in any one of its organs may terminate in excruciating anguish, in wasting disease, or immediate death. ^ cut is inflicted on the thumb, and ends in lock-jaw. A sudden, change takes place in the atmosphere which the individual breathes, and quickens into life a malady which wastes the lungs and the frame till it ends in dissolution. A particular vital vessel bursts, and instant death follows. A derangement takes place in the nerves or brain, and henceforth the mind itself reels and staggers. It appears that the uncertainty increases the nearer we come to man, and there is nothing so uncertain as bodily health and human destin}[7].

So far as man can observe, there is as much uncertainty in many departments of God's works as if there were no laws obeyed by them. The Romans were not singular in representing Fortune as blind, and worshipping her as a goddess who has extensive sway over the destinies of mankind. Not a few have rashly rushed to the conclusion that God does not rule in these heavens, or that his government does not extend to the earth.* Atheism, finding that it cannot blot out the Light from these heavens, has out of this seeming disorder endeavoured to raise a cloud of dust that may conceal it from the

view. Unbelief, in gloomy waywardness, wanders for ever among these tangled woods and briars, and can find no outlet or road with an onward direction. The devout spirit, too, observes this strange complication ; and in doing so, it wonders, and adores, and acknowledges that even when the most likely means are used, they cannot produce the end contemplated without what is expressively called "the BLESSING OF HEAVEN.

* See Lucretius, *passim.*